

What is claimed is:

1. A replaceable ink container for providing ink to an inkjet printing system, the inkjet printing system having a receiving station for receiving the replaceable ink container, the receiving station having a fluid inlet and a sealing structure, the
5 replaceable ink container comprising:
a reservoir defining a fluid outlet and a sealing surface proximate the fluid outlet; and
a sealing material contained within the reservoir for wetting the sealing surface to seal defects between the sealing surface and the sealing structure.
10
2. The replaceable ink container of claim 1 wherein the sealing material contains pigment particles.
3. The replaceable ink container of claim 1 wherein the sealing material contains
15 carbon black particles.
4. The replaceable ink container of claim 1 further including a dispersant.
5. The replaceable ink container of claim 1 wherein the reservoir contains a
20 quantity of ink.
6. The replaceable ink container of claim 1 wherein the sealing surface is configured to be sufficiently wettable such that the sealing surface is wet by the sealing material.
25
7. A method for forming a seal between a replaceable ink container and a sealing structure, the method comprising:
wetting a sealing surface on the replaceable ink container with a sealing material contained within the replaceable ink container; and
30 engaging the sealing surface with a sealing structure whereby the sealing material is disposed there between for sealing defects.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein the sealing material is an ink contained within the replaceable ink container.

9. The method of claim 7 wherein the engaging the sealing surface with a sealing structure includes solidifying the sealing material so that solid particles fall out of suspension.

10. A replaceable ink container for providing ink to an inkjet printing system, the inkjet printing system having a receiving station for receiving the replaceable ink container, the receiving station having a fluid inlet and a sealing structure, the replaceable ink container comprising:

a storage reservoir having a capillary storage material disposed therein for retaining ink, the storage reservoir defining a fluid outlet and a sealing surface proximate the fluid outlet; and

15 an ink retained within the capillary storage material, the ink having particles suspended therein, the ink for solidifying on the sealing surface to seal defects between the sealing surface and the sealing structure.

11. The replaceable ink container of claim 10 wherein the ink contains pigment particles suspended therein.

12. The replaceable ink container of claim 10 wherein the ink contains carbon black particles.

13. The replaceable ink container of claim 10 wherein the ink further includes a dispersant.

14. The replaceable ink container of claim 10 wherein the sealing surface proximate the fluid outlet is configured to be wetted by the ink stored within the ink container.

15. The replaceable ink container of claim 10 wherein the sealing surface is configured for enhanced wettability such that the sealing surface is wet by the sealing material.

5 16. A replaceable printing component for an inkjet printing system configured for receiving the replaceable printing component, the inkjet printing system having a fluid inlet and a sealing structure, the replaceable printing component comprising:

a sealing surface configured for engaging a corresponding sealing structure on the inkjet printing system; and

10 wherein the sealing surface is configured so that sealing material that wets the sealing surface seals defects between the sealing surface and the sealing structure.

17. The replaceable printing component of claim 16 wherein the replaceable printing component is a replaceable ink container.

15

18. The replaceable printing component of claim 16 wherein the replaceable printing component is a replaceable printhead.

19. The replaceable printing component of claim 16 wherein sealing material is
20 pigmented ink.

20. The replaceable printing component of claim 16 the sealing surface engages the sealing structure on the inkjet printing system to form a face seal.

25